Rs. 40 crores from this port as profit. We are getting a profit of Rs. 100 to 200 crores from other ports. Therefore, in no way is it affected, as the hon. Member feels.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, the Indian ports are earning profit. The hon. Minister has stated in his answer that a profit of Rs. 1,200 crores has been given by the major ports of India. The main problem is with regard to mother-ships due to the non-availability of anchoring facilities at these ports. Sir, that is the major problems. Sir, I would say, whether it is the East-Coast or the West-Coast, the mother-ships goes to Colombo. We are only transporting the containers to the mother-ships. In that background, I would like to know something from the Minister. Sir, in the last Budget, I think, the previous Government earmarked Rs. 300 crores for the development of Cochin and Tuticorin Ports and for providing facilities for the mother-ships to come. I would like to know from the Minister as to what has happened to that proposal. Sir, this amount was meant for enabling the Cochin Port to provide facilities for the mother-ships. The first priority was for providing facilities to the mother-ships, fetch containers and make all other ports to feed the Cochin Port. That was the idea. I would like to know as to what has happened to that proposal announced by the Government in the previous Budget proposals.

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI: In order to attract mother-ships, we are making all efforts. As has been mentioned by the hon. Member, most of the mother-ships are going to Colombo. That is a fact. It is happening only due to the non-availability of facilities at our ports. We have taken major steps in this regard. For Cochin Port. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: In the last Budget, an amount of Rs. 300 crores was earmarked for the Tuticorin and Cochin Ports. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is the point which I want to mention. ...*(Interruptions)*... This amount was for providing facilities to the mother-ships. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI: This amount was not particularly meant for providing facilities to the mother-ships. We have given Rs. 330 crores in the 9th Five Year Plan. We have mentioned that. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have already spent Rs. 10 crores as an annual expenditure for 1997-98. There is an approved outlay of Rs. 10 crores for 1998-99. This is the actual expenditure. We are also taking steps for privatisation so that they are able to expand their ports. We are working on that.

In the same way, for Tuticorin Port we are making efforts for deepening and dredging. Sir, we have recently made a scheme and for that an amount of up to Rs. 200 crores has been approved. They are going to deepen it by 10.5 metres. But, we have suggested that it should be 12.5 metres because then only can the mother-ships come. For that we have also requested the authorities of the port that while giving a contract for this purpose, they should take into consideration the fact that in future it has to be expanded. We are making all efforts in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Question No. 124.

Private Participation in Power Sector in Tamil Nadu

*124. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power plants set up and proposed to be set up in Tamil Nadu during Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans; and

(b) the details of private participation in these projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The power plants set up in Tamil Nadu during 8th Plan are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of the Plant		Capacity (MW)	Date of Commissioning
1.	North Madras TPP			
	TNEB	U-1	210	25-10-94
		U-2	210	27-03-95
		U-3	210	24-02-96
2.	Basin Bridge Gas Turbine			
	TNEB	U-1	30	12-02-96
		U-2	30	25-02-96
		U-3	30	26-03-96
		U-4	30	31-03-96

The details of power plants proposed to be set up in Tamil Nadu during the 9th Plan are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Plant	Capacity (MW)	Sector
Thermal Projects			
1.	Neyveli TPS-Zero Unit	250	Private Sector
2.	Peillaiperumalnallur CCGT	330.5	Private Sector
3.	North Madras TPS St. II	1050	Private Sector
4.	Basin Bridge DSPP	200	Private Sector
5.	Turicorin TPP St. IV	525	Private Sector
6.	Samayanallur DGPP	106	Private Sector
7.	Samalpatti DGPP	106	Private Sector
8.	Basin Bridge WHR	30	State Sector
9.	Neyveli FST Extn.	420	Central Sector
Hydro Projects			
10.	Kundah-5 Extn.	30	State Sector
11.	Lower Bhawani	8	State Sector
12.	Sathanur	7.5	State Sector
13.	Pykara Ultimate	150	State Sector

The 9th Plan has not yet been finalised.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Sir, first of all, I should appreciate the hon. Minister for doing an excellent and speedy work for providing electricity to Tamil Nadu. The Government of Tamil Nadu is also helping. ...*(Interruptions)*... I know that. Sir, the hon. Minister recently held a meeting with the hon. Chief Minister. I

would like to know what the outcome of that meeting is. Sir, the hon. Minister after meeting the hon. Chief Minister assured the people regarding commencement of the third phase of the Ennore Power Plant. I would like to know whether there is any pending projects of the NTPC in Tamil Nadu. Sir, I would like to know at what stage the Cheyur and Cuddalore NTPC Projects are and as to when they are going to be commenced. The Government of Tamil Nadu is cooperating with the Central Government regarding setting up of power plants in Tamil Nadu. The Government of Tamil Nadu is ready to cooperate with the Centre with regard to commencement of the various power plants. That is why I would like to know as to why these power plants are pending for a long time.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Member for his compliment. I myself would not say that I have done so much to my own State which I would like to. The fact is, during the discussions with the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, it was decided that one mega project would be set up by the NTPC which is a 1500 MW coal-based power project at Cheyyur. The detailed project report is being prepared. The NTPC has also commissioned the environmental study which needs to be done. We are waiting for clearance from the State Government on the matter of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification. As soon as it comes, we will move to start the plant. The plant would be commissioned in the early 10th Five Year Plan.

With regard to other projects, I would like to submit that there is another project about which we had discussed, and that is an NLC's project. It is a joint venture of the NLC and the NTPC. It is also a 2000 MW project based on lignite and the third mine for which the budgetary support in terms of Plan funds has been made. An approval has been given so far as the mine is concerned. About the power plant, it will be a usual commercial proposition that the NTPC has to invest from its own resources. These are the two projects. Both of them are totalling 4000 MW of power. These come under Central public sector expected to be commissioned during the 10th Plan in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Sir, Tamil Nadu is attracted by the NRI people as well as private investors to start new industrial units. Now, Tamil Nadu stands at the third place in the industrial growth. I would like to know from the hon. Minister from which date Tamil Nadu will get 100% electricity. Is the hon. Minister going to give any priority, since he belongs to the same State? I would also like to know as to why the 9th Plan has not yet been finalised.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: It is true that industrial growth rate in Tamil Nadu has been on the rise. There is no doubt about it. Today, Tamil Nadu has a short supply of about 500 MW of power only during summer. With the commissioning of new plants, I hope, the problem would be solved. There is a 210 MW power plant in North-Chennai. Just now, we have got this into operation. We are having a basin-bridge project coming in. This would also be commissioned now. In addition to these, we are having a number of other projects moving in. It is my belief that by the end of the next year, Tamil Nadu would be in a position to offer power to other States.

MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is about Tamil Nadu.

MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: No. I am from Maharashtra.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question is about Tamil Nadu.

MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Sir, I am asking a very important question about Maharashtra.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can ask only if it pertains to Tamil Nadu.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Sir, he is the Union Minister of Power.

MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Sir, he is Power Minister of the Government of India. If I want to ask something aboaut my State, there is no harm ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. You can put your question.

MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Thank you, Sir. Today, you are very kind to me. In view of paucity of resources and keeping in view the urgent need to bridge the gap between demand and supply of power, the policy is now to encourage greater investment by private sector. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what has been the target fixed for additional capacity generation in Maharashtra during the last five years and how far this target has been achieved. Sir, part (b) of my question is, what has been the response of private sector in power projects in Maharashtra so far and what are the details of such projects.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGLAM: Sir, I agreed to take up this question because one cannot say 'no' to a senior lady Member of Parliament. But the situation is that in the Ninth Plan we have proposed to add 10,574.20 MWs in the western region as a whole. At the national level, in the Ninth Plan, we have proposed to add 40,000 MWs, out of which quite a substantial amount has been allotted to the private sector. But I do believe that achievements would not be as high as we have aniticipated in the private because essentially there are problems with the commercial viability of the SEBs. Until the reform process in the State Electricity Boards reaches a substantial level and their financial position improves, the private sector power plants are not going to come up as fast as all of us expect them to. So, we are filling the gap by means of public sector investments. The NTPC's original plan was only to add about 8 or 9 thousand MWs. In order to bridge the gap which might arise due to the private sector, it has now revised its plan and its plans to add at least 17,000 MWs additionally, between the Ninth and the Tenth Five Year Plans, which is double its previous plans. Today, in Maharashtra we have one counter-gurantee project, called Bhadravati Project, with a capacity of 1,000 MWs. We have another project, called Patalganga, with a capacity of 500 MWs. In the State sector we have about 1500 MWs. In fact, as soon as the Enron project, which has a capacity of 2,000 MW, comes into operation, Maharashtra will be in surplus with quite a reasonably well-priced power, if I may use that term. Today, 800 MWs is surplus during non-peak hours. During non-peak hours, we already have a surplus of 800 MWs in Maharashtra. Salveji did a lot of justice to his home state; Today, I was receiving a slight allegation. But, I must say that the surplus of power is also being sold during non-peak hours. But during peak hours, they have a shortage, a substantial shortage of almost 400 MWs. The imbalance between the peak load and the base load is the problem of Maharashtra. But, I think, by the end of the next year they would be in a better position.

SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: I would like to know from hon. Minister whether foreign as well as Indian companies are interested in setting up mega power projects in Tamil Nadu. If so, please specify the names of foreign and Indian companies, which are interested in setting up power projects. An how many mega watts of power would be generated by them?

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, there is one site in Tamil Nadu, which is right beside the town, called Cuddalore, which has been identified as a site for the mega power project, also called the Showcase Project. Its anticipated capacity is 1500 MWs. It was originally planned to be based on imported coal or blended coal combination of fuel. But, now it will be decided on the basis

of feasibility and cost because gas has become a very attractive proposition as a fuel. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will just finish in a minute. The number of companies is very large. I do not have the details with me. I also do not think that at the moment it is advisable for me to talk about it. There is a standing independent group, headed by former Chief Justice, Mr. Bhagwati, with a team of technical as well as financial experts with him, who are in the process of discussing with both national and multi-national companies and what should be the framework which should be generally acceptable to the power world and the issue of qualification would also be there. It is my anticipation that by the end of March, we should be firming up and the formal bidding process would have been completed by then. At that time I would be able to tell my good friend which company would be setting up a mega project at Cuddalore.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: This question pertains to NTPC which is a major producer of power. Sir, the NTPC has applied for World Bank loan for Talcher Expansion Project to the tune of 2.2 billion dollars. Is it true that the World Bank has imposed new conditions pertaining to the rehabilitation of the project, and that the project is in jeopardy? Sir, the same is the case with regard to Vindhyachal-II. We have been instructed that the debt funds will not be reimbursed unless the new conditionalities are accepted. If this is the case, then I would like to know whether the government has got any alternative so that the progress of the ongoing projects is not hampered.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Chairman, Sir, with regard to the Talcher II Project, the World Bank has indicated that it would require a new environmental impact assessment made on the basis of the norms which are much higher or much stricter than the norms which even the global summit had submitted. I do believe that the World Bank is at the moment more interested in financing hydro-projects—it is welcome to us—than the coal-based power projects. Therefore, on Talcher-II we have taken a decision that we would go for external commercial borrowings. We believe that it will be financially viable because it is a pit-head project. It would be a very good example of what we can do with good external commercial borrowings. NTPC has got a very good

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: I think, I should, through you, Sir, disabuse the hon. Member about the performance of the private sector vis-a-vis the public sector. In fact, in the 8th Plan the failing was more on the public sector side. It was despite the private sector not having sufficient performance systems having set in. The shortfall in the 8th Plan was 47.3 per cent. Therefore, insofar as the private sector is concerned, the shortfall was only 37 per cent. So, they have done ten per cent better than the average. Obviously, the public sector has done much worse, otherwise, it would not have been possible. Sir, with international credit rating, I do not think there will be a problem with that. With regard to Vindhyachal-II we have had an independent monitoring panel. It has given its report. Both the World Bank Management as well as the NTPC have come to an understanding. I do not think there is any problem at all with regard to Vindhyachal-II or the Ashdyke of the Singrauli area. We have sorted those out, as of yesterday; the hon. Member is, obviously, well briefed.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Sir, from the experience we have of the 8th Plan we see that the performance of the private sector was very bad. In the case of Tamil Nadu, during the 9th Plan, we expected 2,500 megawatt from the private sector. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this expectation will be fulfilled during the 9th Plan. I would also like to know whether any kind of monitoring system is being thought of by the Ministry to see that this target is achieved.

regard to the private power plants which are there, I am pleased to inform the House that the Neyveli TPS-Zero Unit has completed all its formalities, counter-guarantee projects. It is going in for a financial closure. Its constructions is expected to start by the 1st of April. With regard to the nine projects which have been mentioned, I am pleased to inform you that out of them, we are monitoring six private sector projects in very great detail. And they are quite advanced. I believe that these projects will come in because the TNEB is one of the financially viable, in fact, successful ventures of electricity boards. It has a 5.9 per cent ROR which is much higher than most other electricity boards, including Maharashtra. I hope Salveji will not mind. Sir, actually, they received Rs. 1200 crore subsidy from the state Government directly as cash subvention from the Budget. Therefore, even though they give free power to the agriculturists, they are functioning in a manner which all of us must appreciate. This is one of the reasons why I expect the private sector projects in Tamil Nadu to really fructify and come into operation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. Now, the Prime Minister.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

पत्तनों पर आयातित यूरिया तथा उर्वरकों की सम्भलाई में पेश आ रही समस्याएं

*122. श्री नरेश यादव: क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हमारे पत्तनों पर आयातित यूरिया तथा अन्य उर्वरकों की सम्भलाई में समस्याएं पेश आ रही हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध में स्थिति का आकलन किया है;

(ग) हाल ही में आयातित यूरिया तथा अन्य उर्वरकों के संबंध में सरकार को पेश आ रही समस्याओं का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) क्या सरकार के पास आयातित उर्वरकों की सम्भलाई में पेश आ रही समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए नीतियां बनाने की कोई योजनाएं है?

विधि, न्याय और कंपनी कार्य मंत्री तथा जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री (श्री एम॰ कार्त्ती दुरई): (क) जी हां।

(ख) उर्वरकों का आयात मौसमी होता है। यूरिया एवं डी ए पी जैसे उर्वरक ढोने वाले जलयानों को बिना बारी प्राथमिकता के आधार पर बर्थ दी जाती है। तथापि, यदि कुछ पत्तनों पर कभी-कभी ऐसे कई जलयान एक साथ पहुंचते हैं तो बर्थों के अभाव के कारण उन्हें प्रतीक्षा करनी पड़ती है क्योंकि आयातकर्ता पत्तनों का चयन अपनी वाणिज्यिक सुविधाओं के अनुसार करते हैं।

(ग) विशाखापत्तनम पत्तन पर अभी हाल में एक साथ कई जलयानों के पहुंचने के परिणामस्वरूप रेल द्वारा कार्गों की निकासी में समस्या आई। तथापि, आयातित उर्वरकों की उतराई, बोरों में भराई और तुलाई के लिए तत्काल कार्रवाई की गई है।

(घ) अधिकांश समस्याएं प्रचालन से संबंधित हैं। पत्तनों ने कार्गों की तेजी से उतराई और निकासी के लिए अपनी सुविधाओं को उन्नत बनाने के उपाय किए है। सरकार ने नामांकन आधार पर महापत्तनों में अपनी स्वयं की सुविधाएं स्थापित करने के लिए आबद्ध प्रयोक्ताओं को अनुमति देने का नीतिगत निर्णय लिया है।

Revival of crop loans to the farmers of the North Eastern States

*125. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the crop loan/credit system has been stopped in the North Eastern States;

(b) the amount of loan overdues in the North East region, State-wise; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to revive the crop loans to the farmers of the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN): (a) and (b) It is not